

## Message Text

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43

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CPR-01 PRS-01 L-03 SCA-01 TRSE-00 /017 W

----- 016589

R 161114Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2870

UNCLAS PARAMARIBO 0827

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: PDIP, NS

SUBJ: TAX EXEMPTION FOR SURINAM CONGEN NEW YORK

1. EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED NOTE FROM MINISTRY FOR GENERAL AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS REQUESTING EMBASSY'S ASSISTANCE IN SECURING NEW YORK STATE SALES TAX EXEMPTIONS AND CUSTOMARY PRIVILEGES TO THE CONSUL GENERAL OF SURINAM IN NEW YORK. SUBSTANTIVE PARAGRAPHS FOLLOW:

2. QUOTE: THE STATE OF NEW YORK HAS NOT BEEN FOUND WILLING TO GRANT THE CUSTOMARY PRIVILEGES TO THE CONSUL GENERAL OF THE REPUBLIC OF SURINAM IN NEW YORK, SUCH AS EXEMPTION FROM SALES TAXES, SINCE THE REPUBLIC OF SURINAM IS NOT A PARTY TO THE 1961 CONSULAR CONVENTION OF VIENNA.

3. HOWEVER, STATE OFFICIALS HAVE DECLARED THEMSELVES READY TO RECONSIDER THE MATTER AND GRANT ALL CUSTOMARY PRIVILEGES TO THE CONSUL GENERAL OF THE REPUBLIC OF SURINAM IN NEW YORK ON THE BASIS OF RECIPROCITY BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES. TO THAT END THE STATE OF NEW YORK WOULD REQUIRE A DECLARATION OF THE EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES IN SURINAM CONCERNING THE PRIVILEGES GRANTED TO ITS CONSULAR OFFICERS.

4. REAFFIRMING THE WILLINGNESS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SURINAM TO GRANT THE SAID PRIVILEGES ON THE BASIS OF RECIPROCITY, THE MINISTRY KINDLY REQUESTS THE EMBASSY TO TAKE THE NECESSARY STEPS IN ORDER THAT THE CUSTOMARY PRIVILEGES BE ACCORDED TO THE CONSUL GENERAL

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OF THE REPUBLIC OF SURINAM IN NEW YORK. UNQUOTE.

5. ATTACHED TO MINISTRY'S NOTE WAS A STATEMENT OF GOS POLICY ON EXEMPTION FROM SURINAM TAXES AS FOLLOWS: QUOTE: CONSULS AND CONSULAR OFFICIALS WITH A FOREIGN NATIONALITY ARE EXEMPT FROM TAXES BECAUSE OF RECIPROCITY BETWEEN THE REPUBLIC OF SURINAM AND THE SENDING STATE, PROVIDED THAT THEY HAVE NO TRADE, PROFESSION OR OTHER OFFICE IN SURINAM FROM WHICH INCOME OR OTHER REVENUES ACCRUE TO THEM.

6. THIS EXEMPTION DOES NOT EXTEND TO PROFITS AND GAINS FROM PRIVATE PROPERTY IN SURINAM AND INCOME DERIVED BY WAY OF PARTICIPATION OR OTHERWISE FROM BUSINESS OR TRADE WITH THEIR LEGAL SEAT IN SURINAM OR FROM OTHER BUSINESS AND TRADE, AS FAR AS SUCH ARE PRACTICED IN SURINAM.

7. THE EXEMPTION OF LOCAL SALES TAXES IS RULED BY ARTICLE 36 OF THE DECREE ON THE EXEMPTION FROM IMPORT DUTIES BY WAY OF RESTITUTION OF SUCH DUTIES. UNQUOTE.

8. COMMENT: EMPLOYEES OF THIS EMBASSY DO NOT PAY ANY LOCAL SALES TAX AND ARE ELIGIBLE FOR DUTY FREE IMPORTS. WITH RESTATEMENT OF GOS POLICY AS PRESENTED IN MINISTRY'S NOTE, WE ARE SATISFIED THAT SIMILAR PRIVILEGES SHOULD BE ACCORDED THE SURINAM CONSUL GENERAL IN NEW YORK ON THE BASIS OF RECIPROCITY.

9. ACTION REQUESTED: REQUEST DEPARTMENT COMMUNICATE WITH APPROPRIATE NEW YORK STATE OFFICIALS TO SECURE GRANTING OF CUSTOMARY PRIVILEGES, INCLUDING EXEMPTION FROM LOCAL SALES TAXES, TO THE CONSUL GENERAL OF SURINAM IN NEW YORK AND MEMBERS OF HIS STAFF. ADVISE.  
ZURHELLEN

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## Message Attributes

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